

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING NODE SECURITY IN  
A ROUTER OF A PACKET NETWORK

ABSTRACT

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A router (200) monitors (302) a data packet sent from an  
originator (102) via the router and addressed to a destination device  
(112, 116) other than the router, and determines (304) whether the  
data packet is potentially harmful to the destination device. The router  
10 interrupts (306) transmission of the data packet in response to  
determining that the data packet is potentially harmful to the destination  
device, including communicating (307) with a second router to cause  
the second router to interrupt transmission of a future data packet; and  
transmits (308) the data packet in response to determining that the  
15 data packet is not potentially harmful to the destination device.